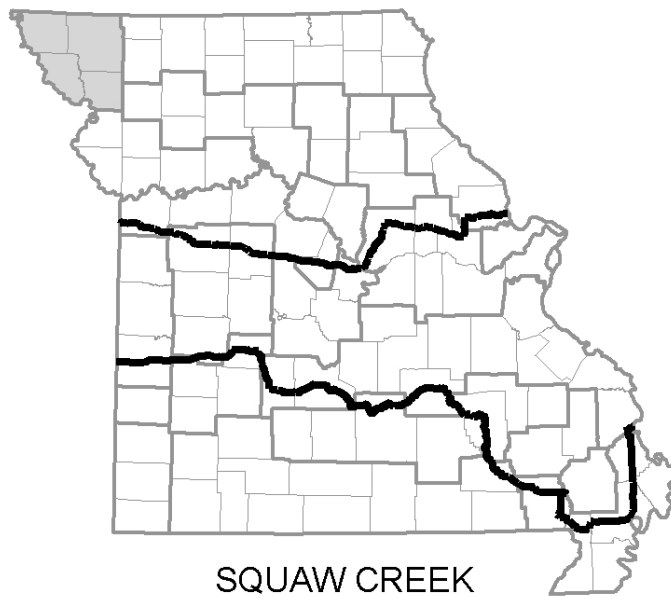
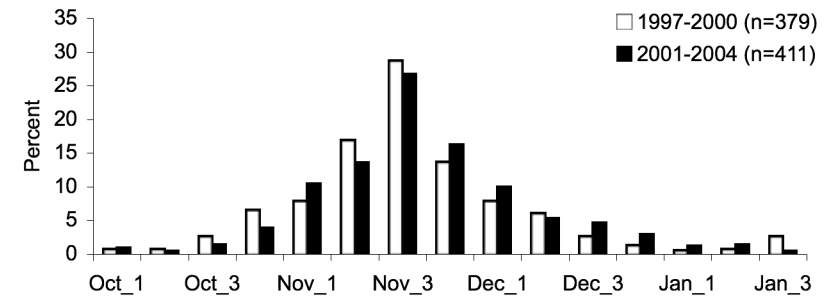


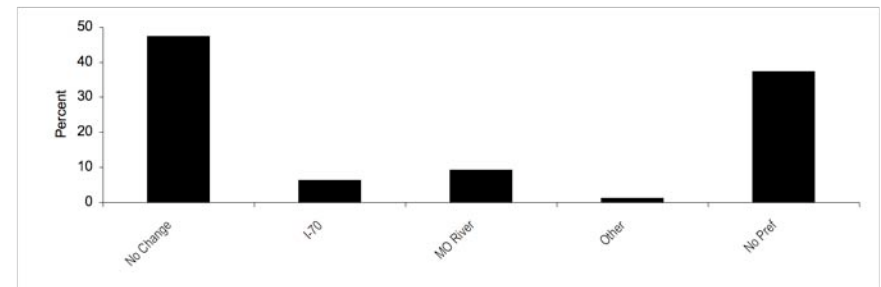
SQUAW CREEK: Until development of Bob Brown CA in 1992 and Nodaway Valley in 2002, primary hunting sites were on private wetlands associated with Squaw Creek NWR and Missouri River floodplain wetlands. Potential for freeze-up during a 60-day season is the most likely in the Squaw Creek Region. As a result, hunter 60-day season date preferences mainly favor the current opening date (31%), or an earlier season framework (38%). In the event of a 45-day season, the most preferred option was to retain the same opening date, but to close on December 12. However, many hunters also indicated they would like to see the season start a week or two later and end on December 19 or December 26. Hunter opinions were much more divided in regards to a 30-day season.



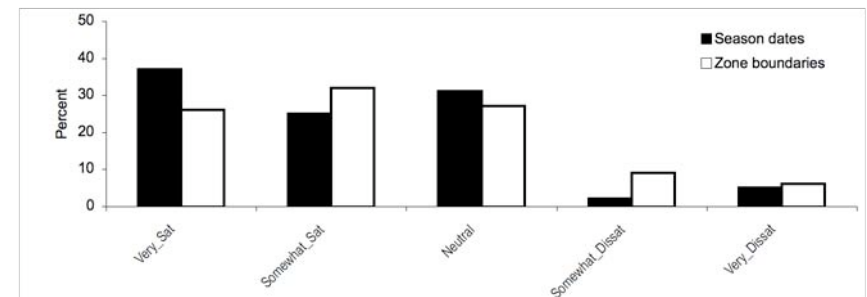
Week most preferred to hunt ducks for hunters who primarily hunted the Squaw Creek Region: 1997-2000 and 2001-2004.



North Zone boundary preferences for western Missouri among those who primarily hunted the Squaw Creek Region (n=169).

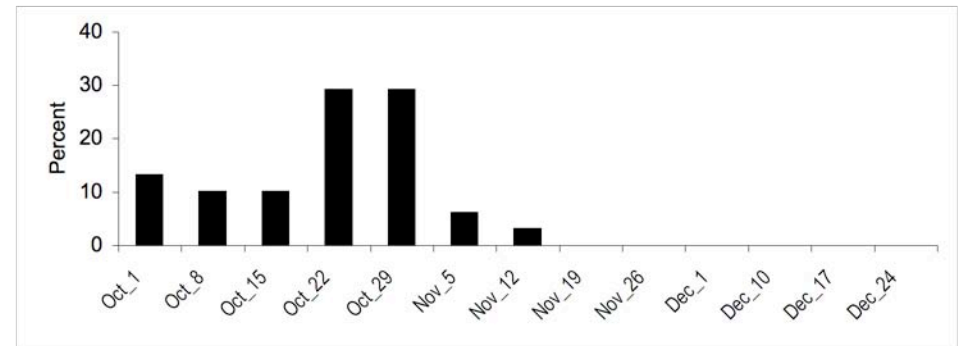


Hunter satisfaction with season dates and zone boundaries by those who primarily hunted the Squaw Creek Region (n=156).

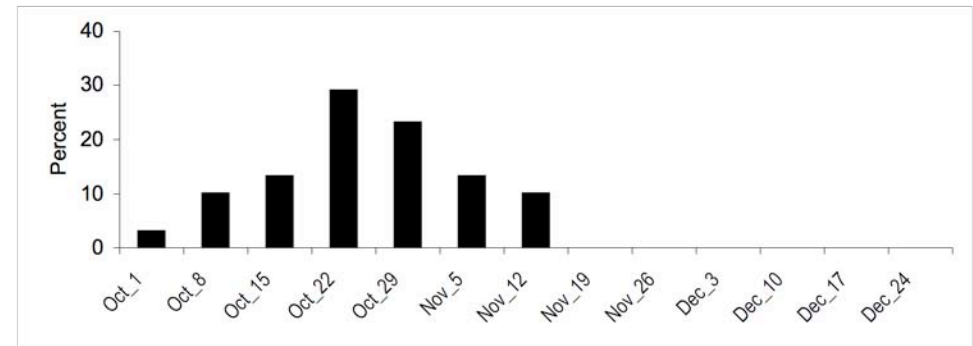


SQUAW CREEK: The current season structure included the week most preferred to hunt by over 90% of the respondents. Only 16% of respondents during 2001-2004 indicated their preferred week to hunt was after the first week of December. Hunters were generally satisfied with season dates and zone boundaries. Most individuals in this region either had no preference about the zone boundary location or preferred that it did not change.

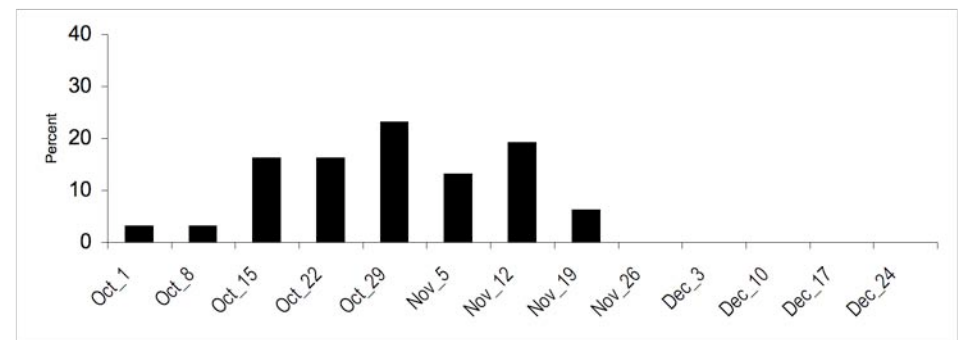
Preferred day for 60-day season to open for those who primarily hunted the North Missouri Region (n=31).



Preferred day for 45-day season to open for those who primarily hunted the North Missouri Region (n=31).



Preferred day for 30-day season to open for those who primarily hunted the North Missouri Region (n=31).



j

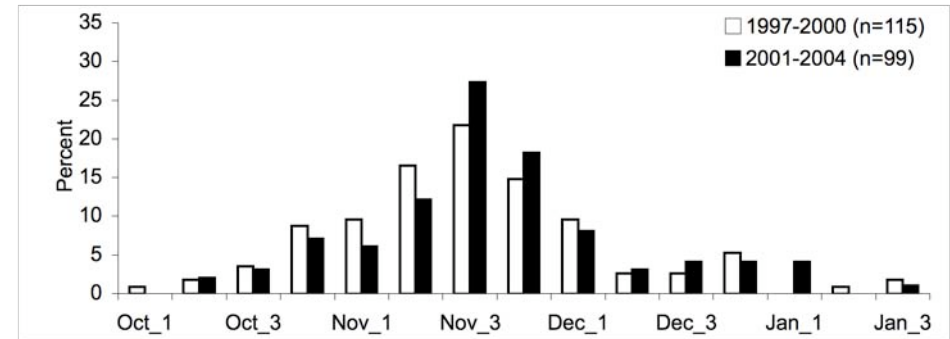


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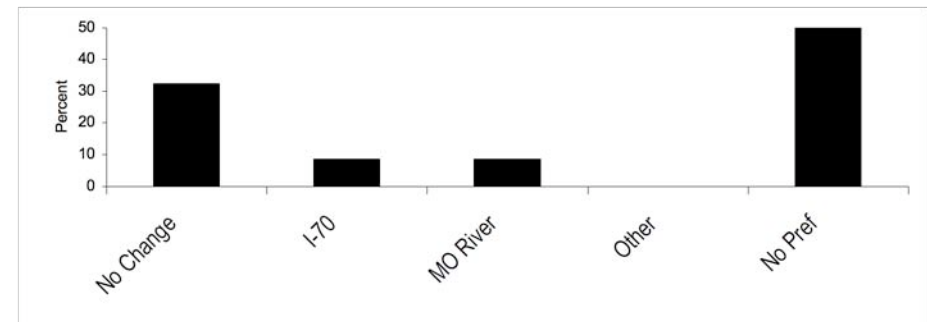
NORTH MISSOURI: Small streams and rivers, associated floodplain wetlands (oxbow depressions), and farm ponds account for much of the North Missouri wetland habitat. This region has relatively few duck hunters. Those responding to this survey had the earliest season preferences in the state. Over 60% preferred the season to open at least a week earlier than it does now. Only 9% would like to see the season open later. Even in a 45- or 30-day season, a significant proportion of hunters would prefer the season to open at the end of October and close in early to mid-December.



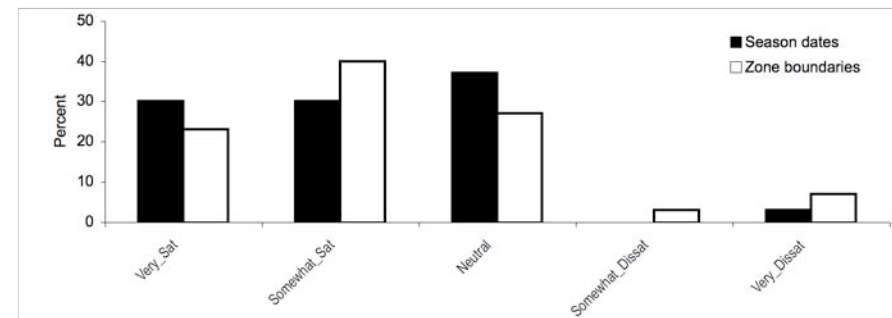
Week most preferred to hunt ducks for hunters who primarily hunted the North Missouri Region: 1997-2000 and 2001-2004.



North Zone boundary preferences for western Missouri among those who primarily hunted the North Missouri Region (n=38).



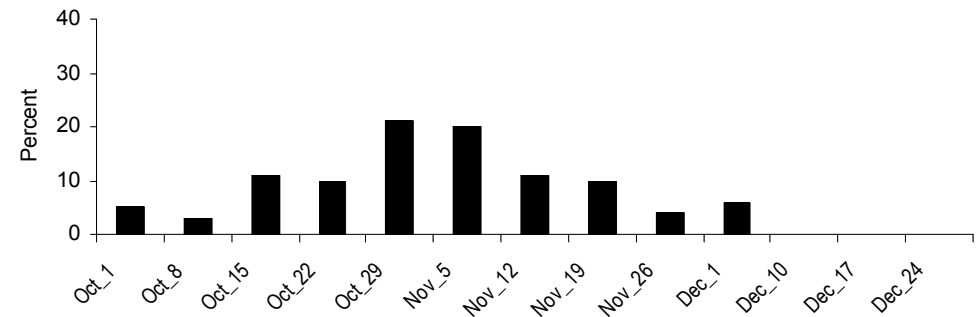
Hunter satisfaction with season dates and zone boundaries by those who primarily hunted the North Missouri Region (n=30).



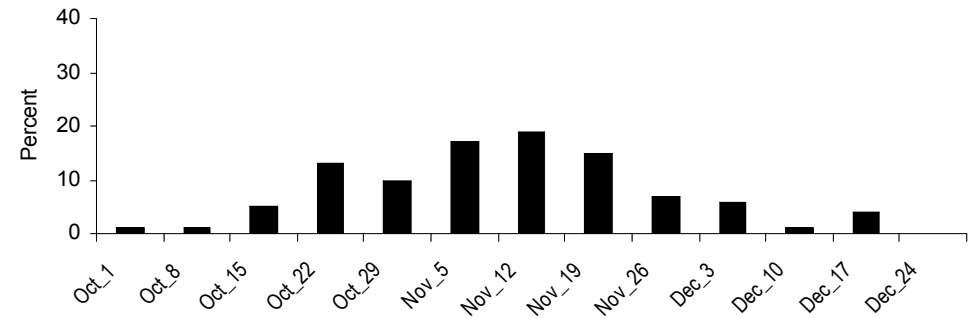
NORTH MISSOURI: Similar to season date preferences, the week most preferred by hunters is earlier than in most regions. Over 75% of 2001-2004 respondents preferred to hunt in either October or November, with the third week in November being the most popular. They did not have strong opinions about season dates or zone boundaries.



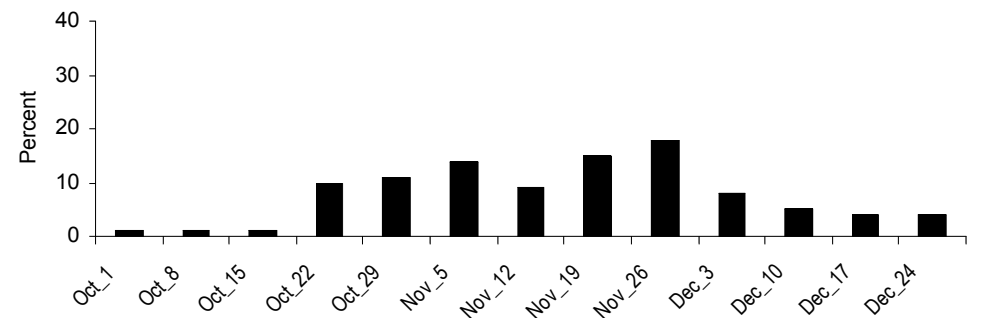
Preferred day for 60-day season to open for those who primarily hunted the Missouri River North Region (n=140).



Preferred day for 45-day season to open for those who primarily hunted the Missouri River North Region (n=138).



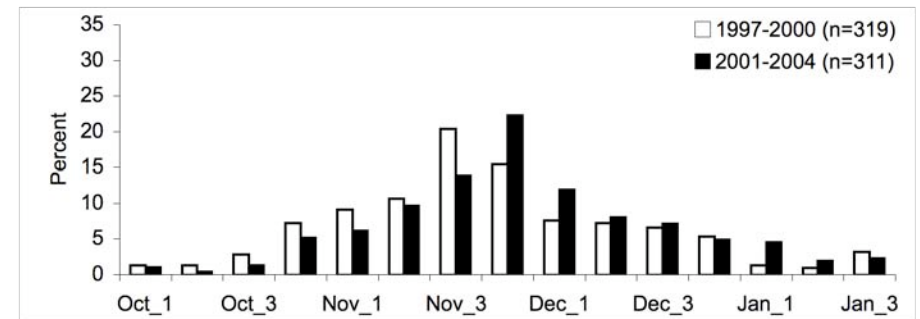
Preferred day for 30-day season to open for those who primarily hunted the Missouri River North Region (n=137).



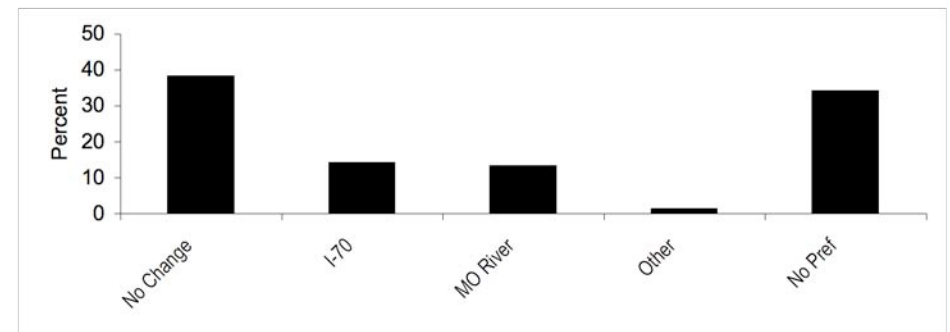
MISSOURI RIVER NORTH: With the combination of shallow water habitat, along with deep water habitat found in association with Missouri River and Smithville Reservoir, hunters were more divided about season date preferences than hunters in the Northwest and generally had later season date preferences. Only 21% indicated support for the current timing of the North Zone opener around October 29. While 29% would like to see the season open earlier, 51% would like to see it open later. Hunters were in much less agreement about season dates in the event of 45- or 30-day seasons. Hunters were nearly equally divided about when a 30-day season should open with their preferences ranging anywhere from October 22 through November 26.



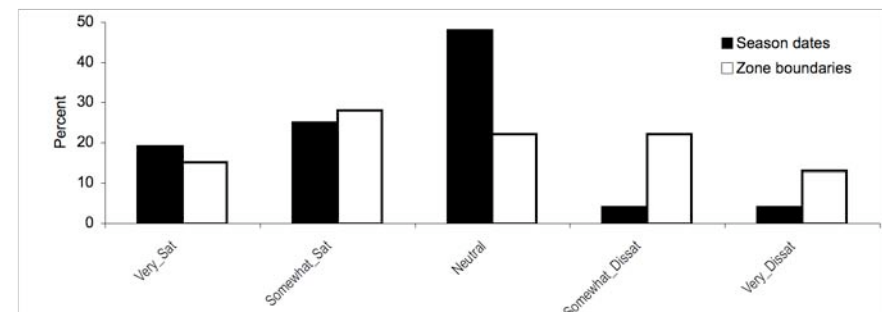
Week most preferred to hunt ducks for hunters who primarily hunted the Missouri River North Region: 1997-2000 and 2001-2004.



Zone boundary preferences for western Missouri among those who primarily hunted the Missouri River North Region (n=154).



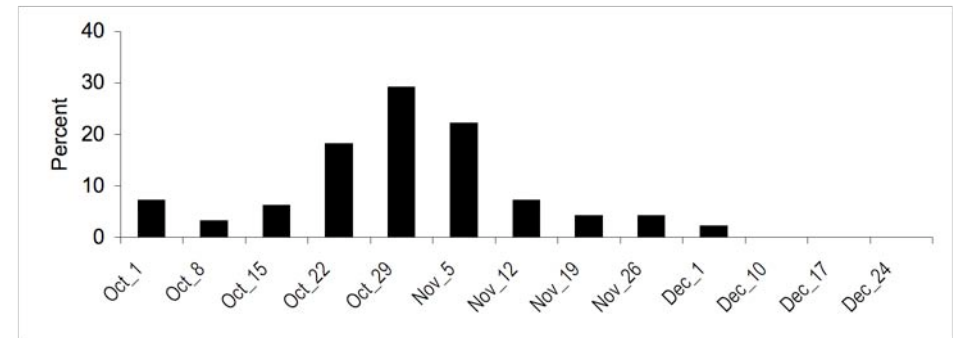
Hunter satisfaction with season dates and zone boundaries by those who primarily hunted the Missouri River North Region (n=140).



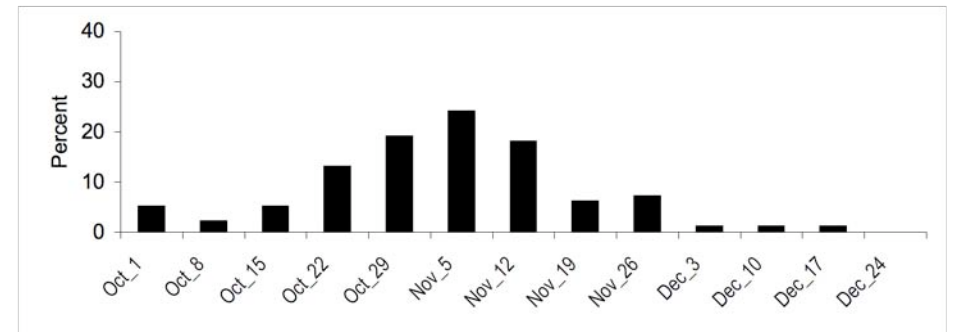
MISSOURI RIVER NORTH: In the last 8 years hunters have shifted towards later season date preferences. During 2001-2004, 41% indicated they preferred to hunt in December or January, up from 32% during 1997-2000. The highest proportion of hunters now prefer to hunt during the fourth week of December. Of those who had a zone boundary preference, 58% would like the current zone to remain in place, and 41% would prefer it moved to either I-70 or the Missouri River with the Missouri River included in the Middle Zone.



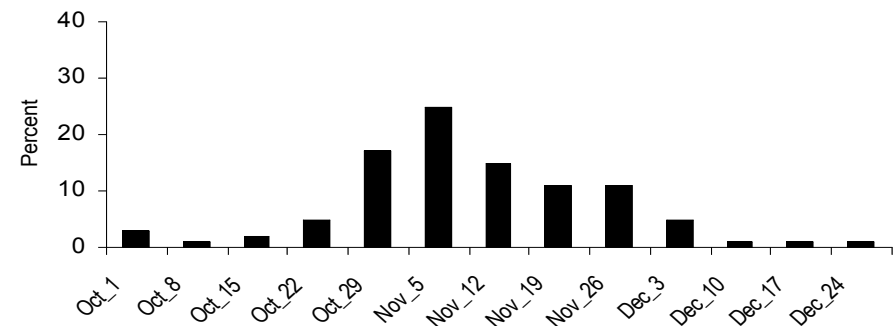
Preferred day for 60-day season to open for those who primarily hunted the Fountain Grove Region (n=180).



Preferred day for 45-day season to open for those who primarily hunted the Fountain Grove Region (n=176).

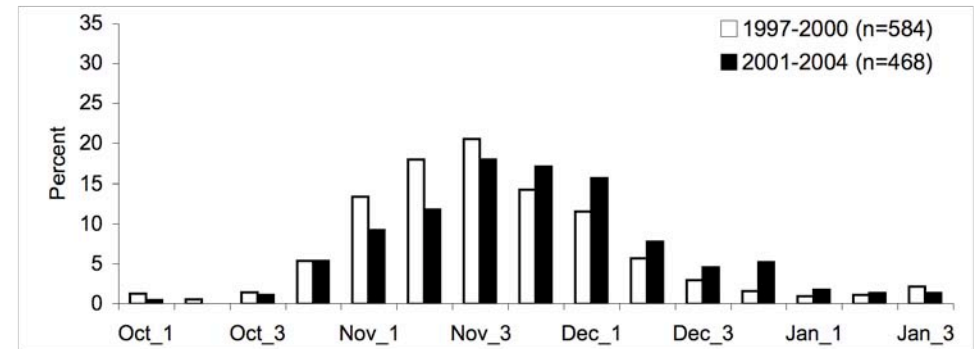
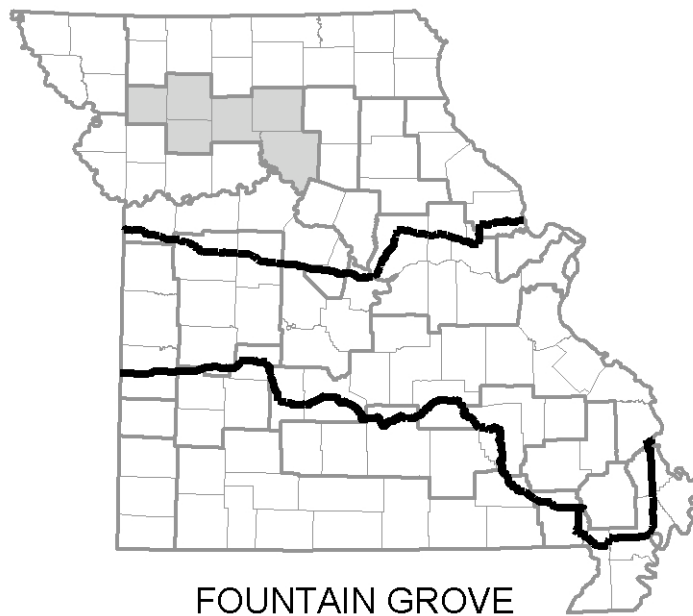


Preferred day for 30-day season to open for those who primarily hunted the Fountain Grove Region (n=175).

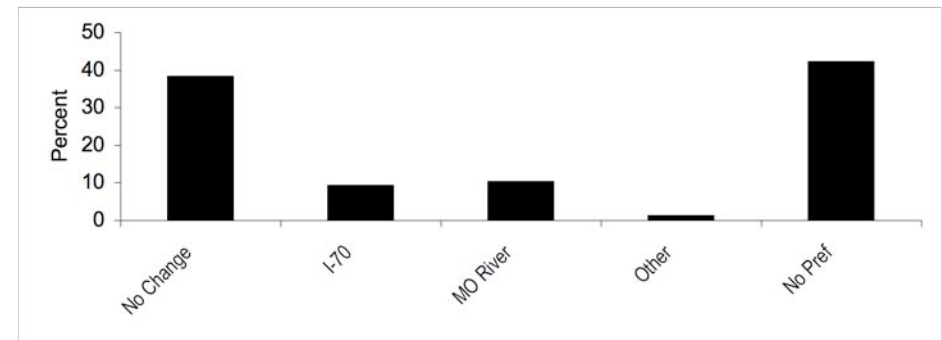


FOUNTAIN GROVE: With most hunting occurring over shallow water in this region, hunters desire earlier seasons than those in the North Missouri Region. After the current opener, the next most desired opening dates would be only one week earlier (18%) or one week later (22%). The most preferred (24%) 45-day season would open on November 5 and close on December 19. Even in a 30-day season, most hunters still preferred the season to open on November 5 and close on December 4.

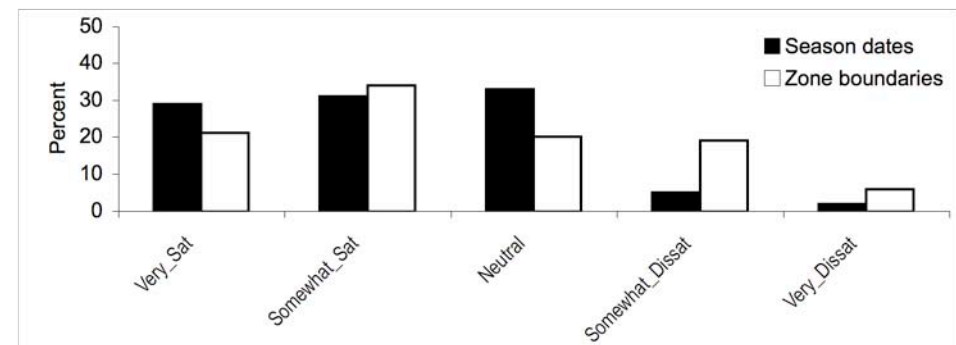
Week most preferred to hunt ducks for hunters who primarily hunted the Fountain Grove Region: 1997-2000 and 2001-2004.



North Zone boundary preferences for western Missouri among those who primarily hunted the Fountain Grove Region (n=195).



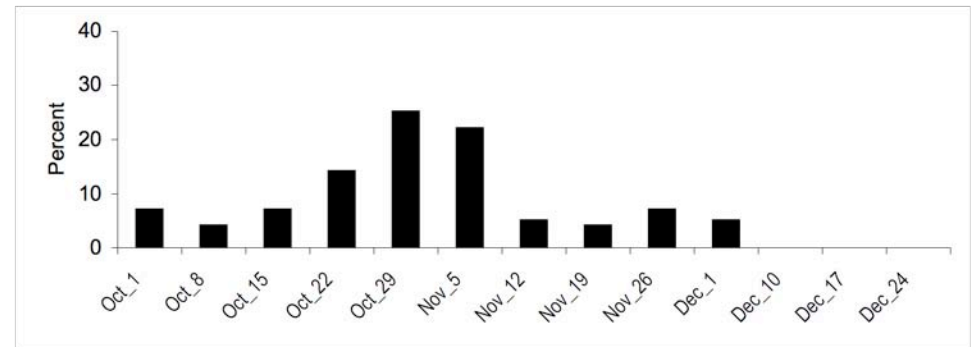
Hunter satisfaction with season dates and zone boundaries by those who primarily hunted the Fountain Grove Region (n=191).



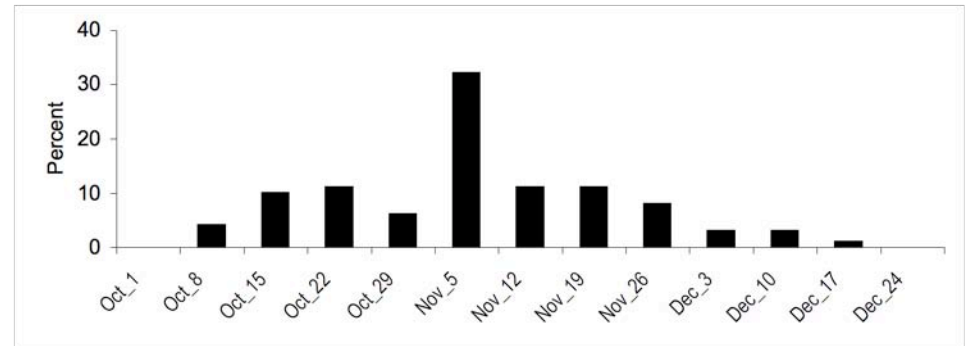
FOUNTAIN GROVE: As in many regions of the state, hunter preferences in the Fountain Grove Region have gradually shifted towards later dates. During 2001-2004, the most popular weeks to hunt included the third week of November through the first week of December. Only 22% of respondents indicated their most preferred week to hunt was after the first week of December. The majority of respondents were satisfied with season dates (60%) and zone boundaries (55%) in 2004.



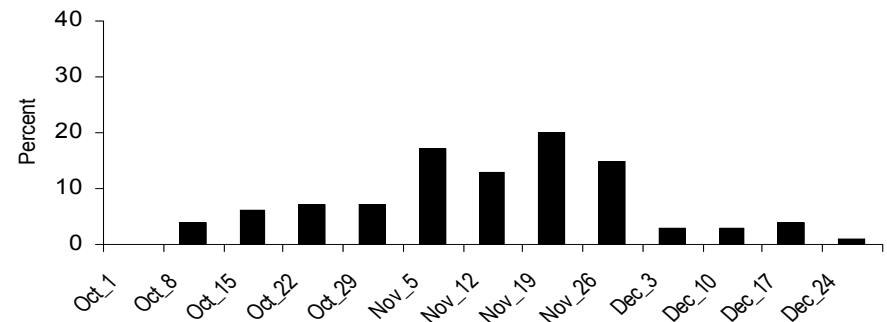
Preferred day for 60-day season to open for those who primarily hunted the Eagle Bluffs Region (n=73).



Preferred day for 45-day season to open for those who primarily hunted the Eagle Bluffs Region (n=72).

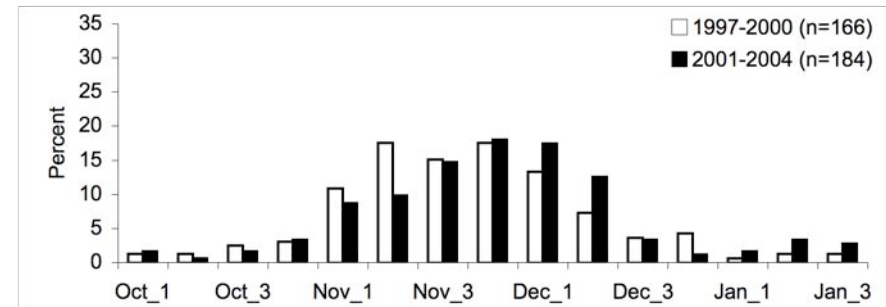


Preferred day for 30-day season to open for those who primarily hunted the Eagle Bluffs Region (n=71).

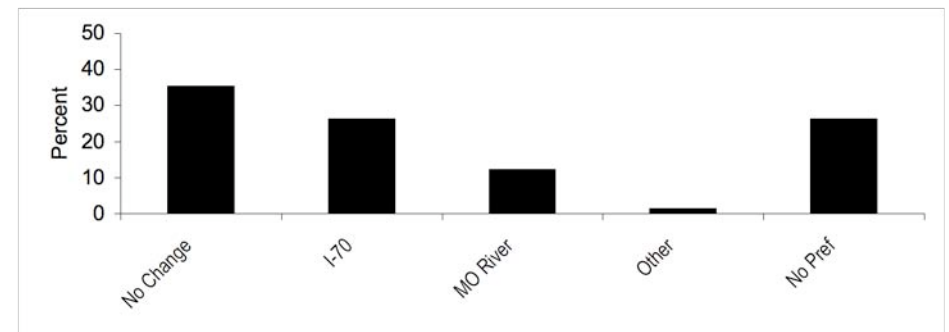


EAGLE BLUFFS: Hunters in the Eagle Bluffs Region have the opportunity to hunt either shallow water habitat such as Eagle Bluffs CA or deep water habitat on the Missouri River. Hunters most preferred a 60-day season to either open on October 22 (14%), October 29 (25%), or November 5 (22%). In the event of a 45-day season, hunters were in much more agreement, with most wanting the season to extend from November 5 through December 19. When considering 30-day season options, preferences were once again more divided with similar numbers of hunters wanting it to open on any given weekend in November.

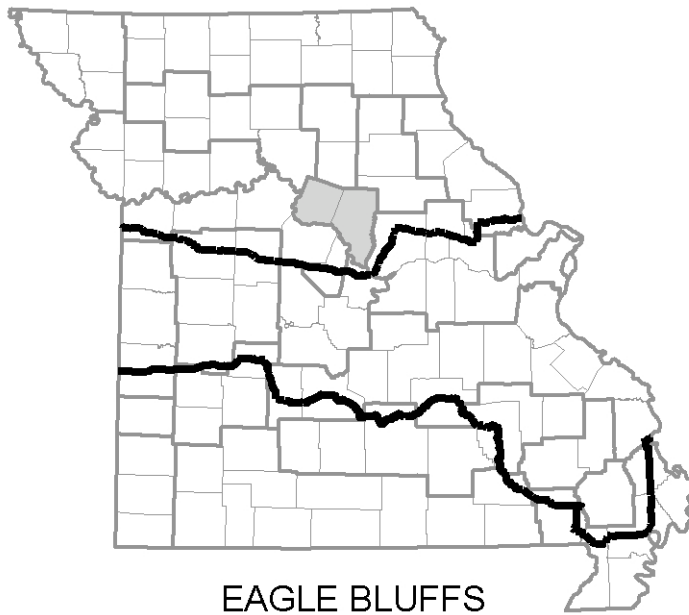
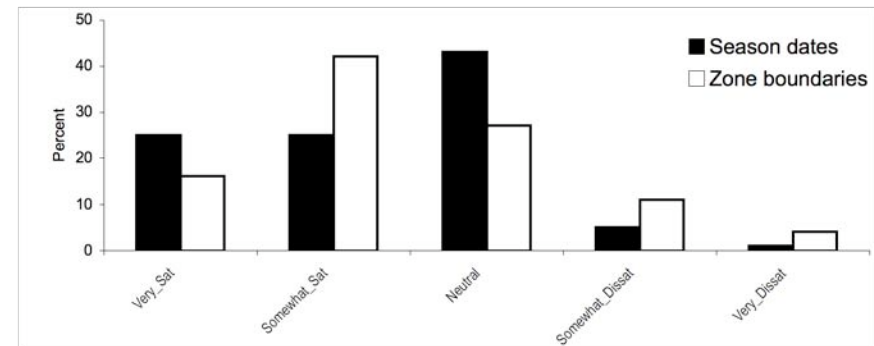
Week most preferred to hunt ducks for hunters who primarily hunted the Eagle Bluffs Region: 1997-2000 and 2001-2004.



North Zone boundary preferences for western Missouri among those who primarily hunted the Eagle Bluffs Region (n=84).



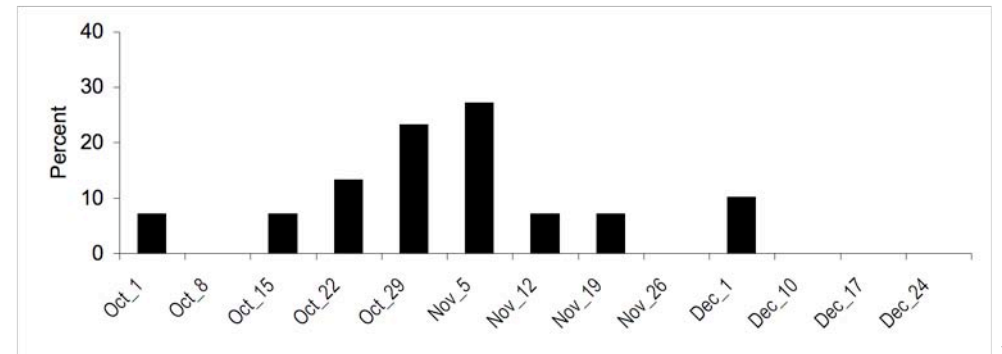
Hunter satisfaction with season dates and zone boundaries by those who primarily hunted the Eagle Bluffs Region (n=79).



EAGLE BLUFFS: Those hunting shallow water locations were likely among the 58% of 2001-2004 respondents who indicated their preferred week to hunt was in October or November. Those hunting the Missouri River were likely among the 42% with December and January preferences. Only 15% expressed dissatisfaction with the current North Zone boundary. Of those with a zone boundary preference, 51% indicated they would like to see the zone moved to either I-70 or the Missouri River.

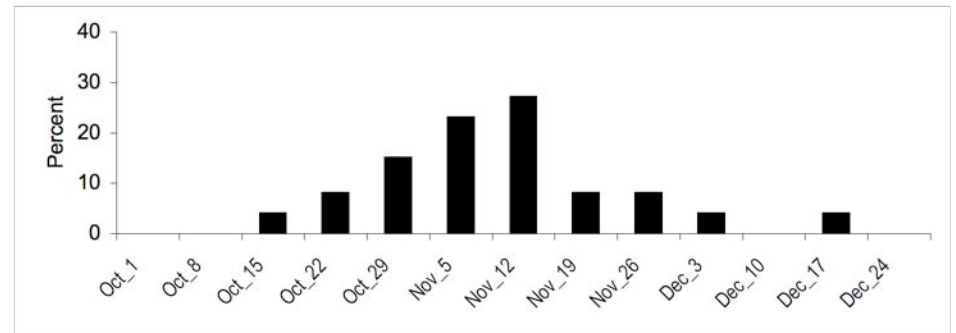


Preferred day for 60-day season to open for those who primarily hunted the Thomas Hill Region (n= 30).

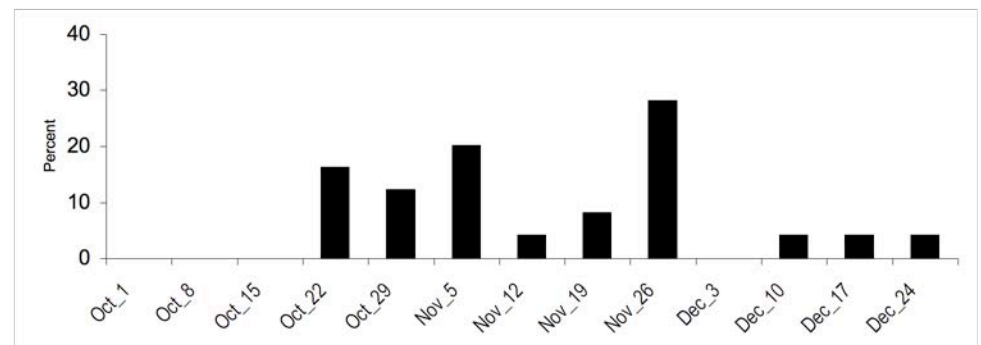


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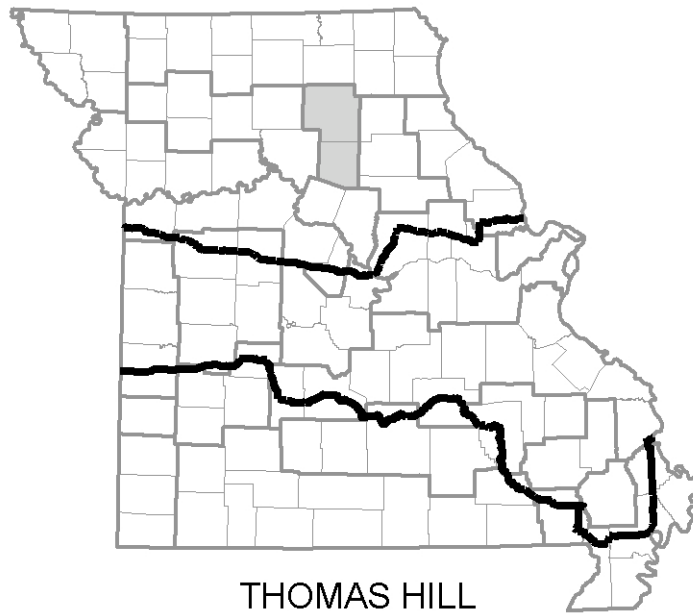
referred day for 45-day season to open for those who primarily hunted the Thomas Hill Region (n= 26).



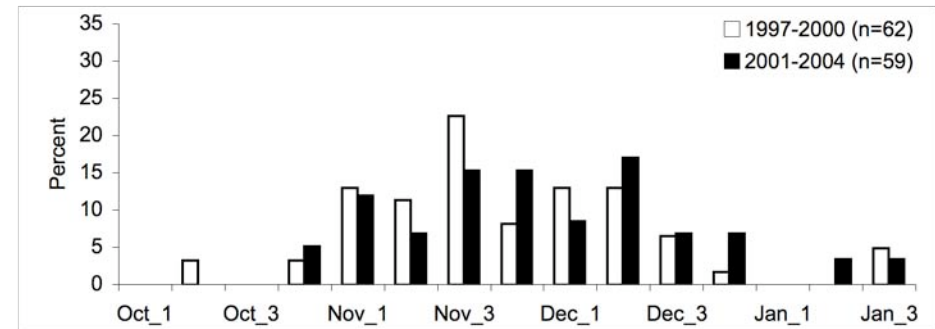
Preferred day for 30-day season to open for those who primarily hunted the Thomas Hill Region (n= 25).



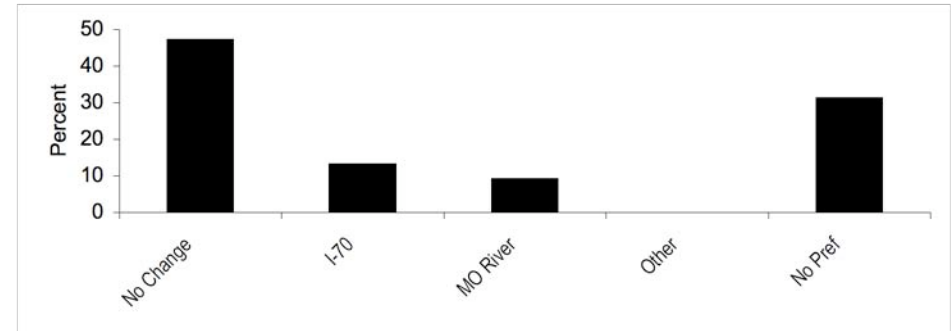
THOMAS HILL: Reservoirs and the Chariton River floodplain provide the primary wetlands in this region. The varied habitats, ranging from shallow remnant depressions in the Chariton River floodplain to deep, open water associated with warm-water discharge from power generation on Thomas Hill, account for diverse views about hunting seasons. Hunters generally favor the timing of the recent 60-day seasons, or for the season to open a week later. Nearly 30% would like a 30-day season to open on 26 November and close on December 25.



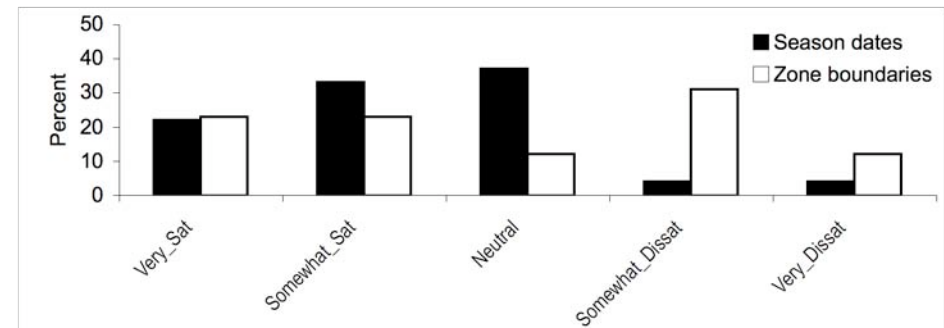
Week most preferred to hunt ducks for hunters who primarily hunted the Thomas Hill Region: 1997-2000 and 2001-2004.



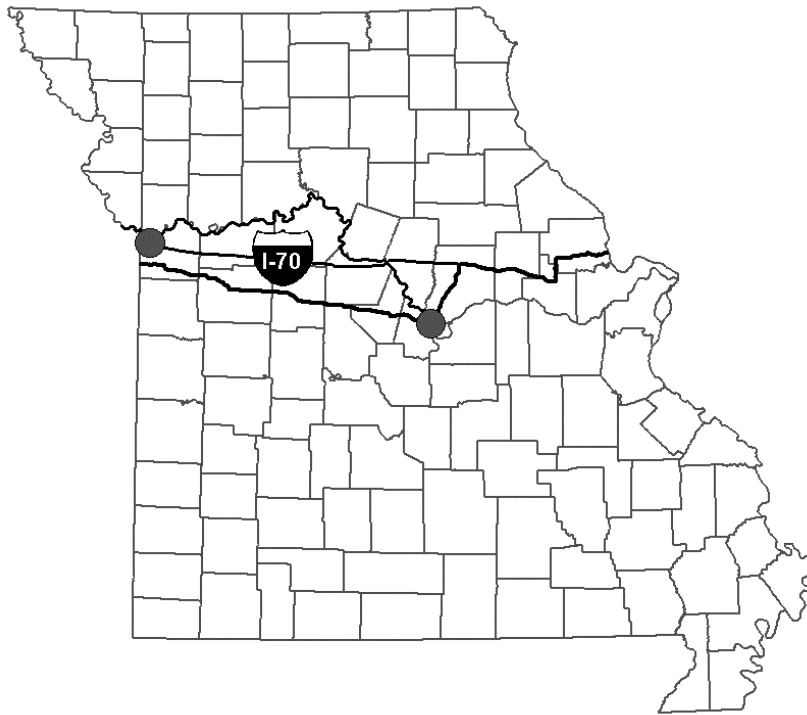
North Zone boundary preferences for western Missouri among those who primarily hunted the Thomas Hill Region (n=32).



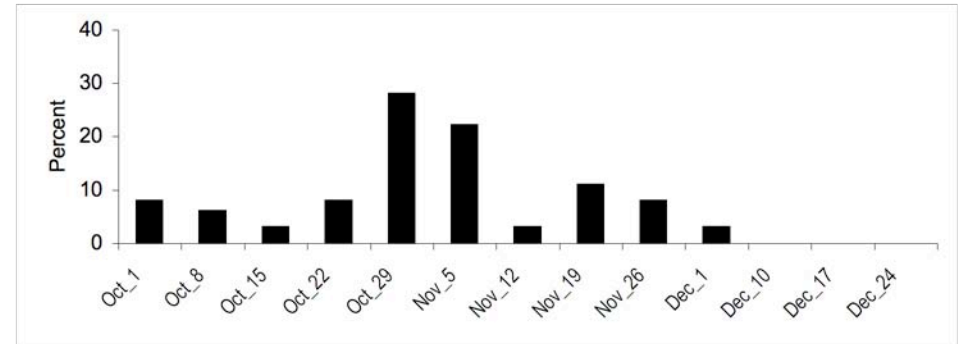
Hunter satisfaction with season dates and zone boundaries by those who primarily hunted the Thomas Hill Region (n=26).



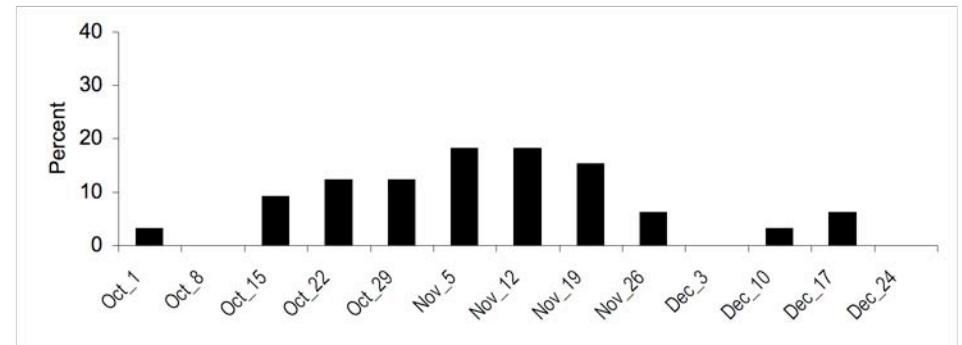
THOMAS HILL: The week hunters prefer to hunt in the Thomas Hill Region more closely resembles responses from the Middle Zone than the North Zone. Nearly 40% indicated their preferred week to hunt was in December or January. While only 8% were dissatisfied with the season dates in 2004, over 40% were dissatisfied with the zone boundaries. However, when asked which zone boundary they would prefer, nearly 80% indicated they did not have a zone boundary preference or would like the zone boundary to remain unchanged.



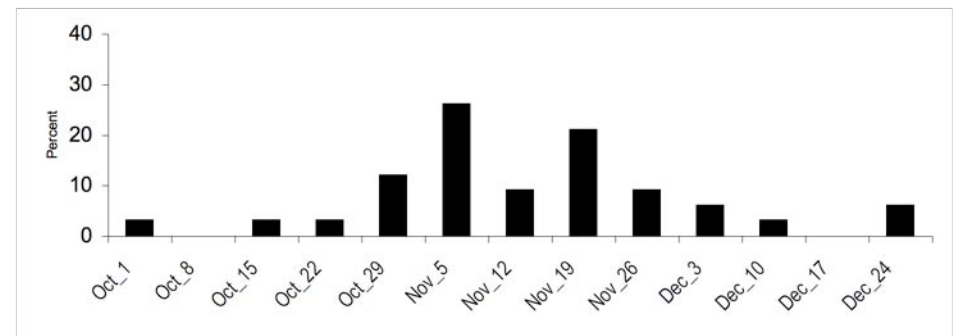
Preferred day for 60-day season to open for those who primarily hunted the Mark Twain Region (n= 36).



Preferred day for 45-day season to open for those who primarily hunted the Mark Twain Region (n= 34).

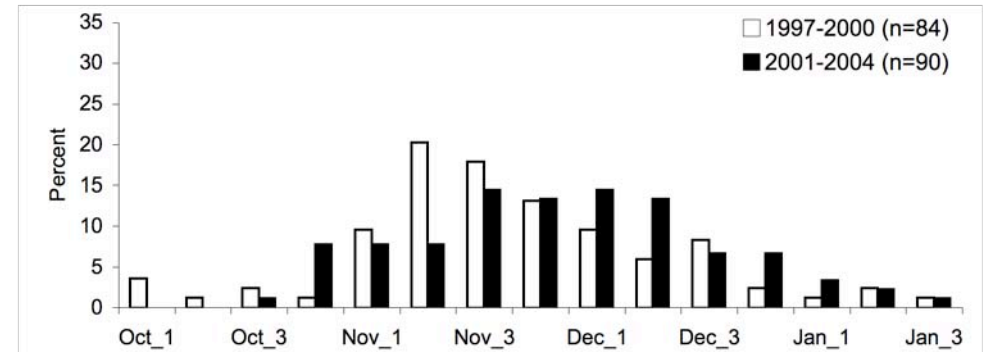


Preferred day for 30-day season to open for those who primarily hunted the Mark Twain Region (n= 34).

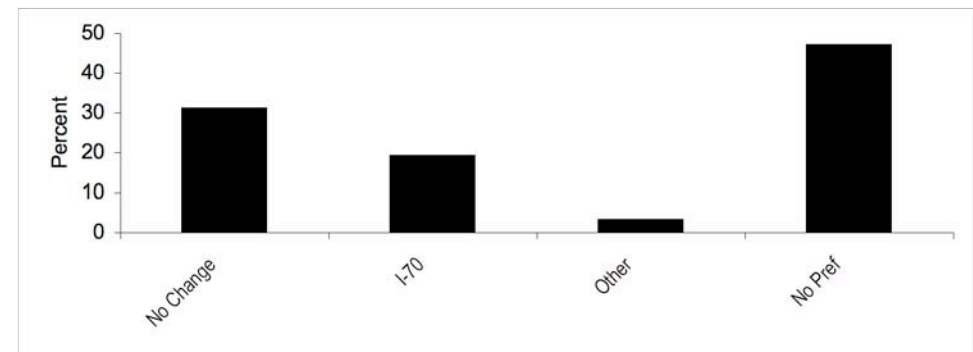


MARK TWAIN: Mark Twain Reservoir and irrigation lakes provide the most hunting opportunity in this region. Hunters prefer a 60-day season to open either on October 29, or November 5. Forty-five day season preferences were variable and in the case of 30-day season, two season preferences stood out, November 5- December 4 and November 19 – January 2.

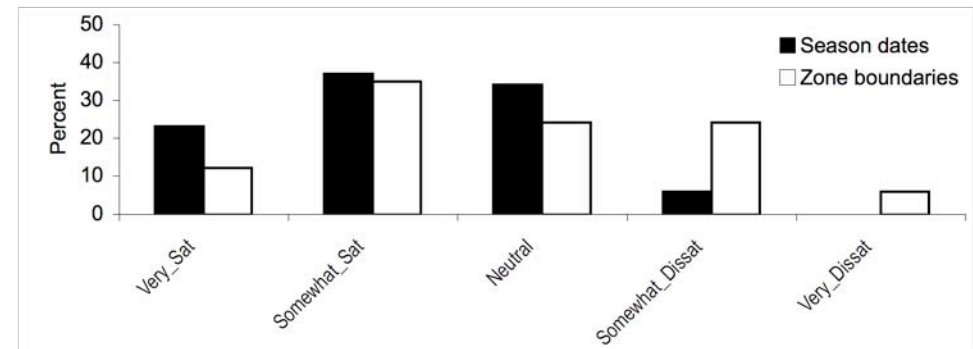
Week most preferred to hunt ducks for hunters who primarily hunted the Mark Twain Region: 1997-2000 and 2001-2004.



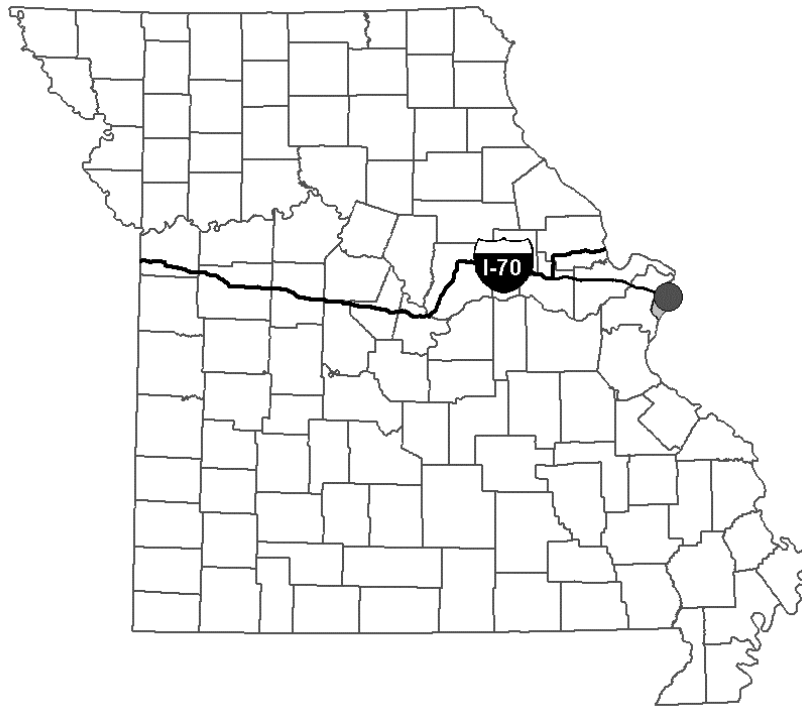
North Zone boundary preferences for eastern Missouri among those who primarily hunted the Mark Twain Region (n=36).



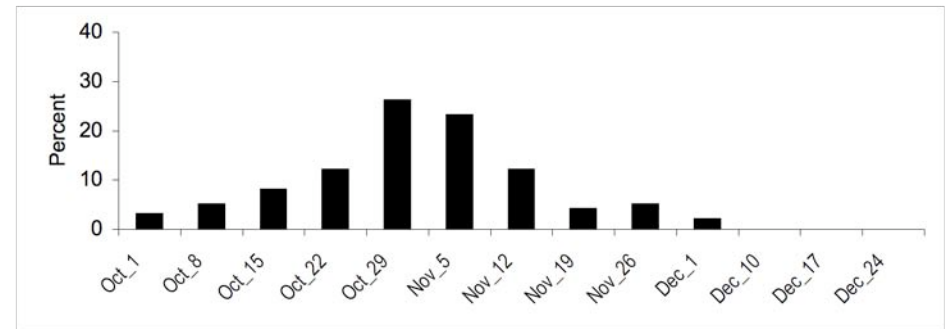
Hunter satisfaction with season dates and zone boundaries by those who primarily hunted the Mark Twain Region (n=34).



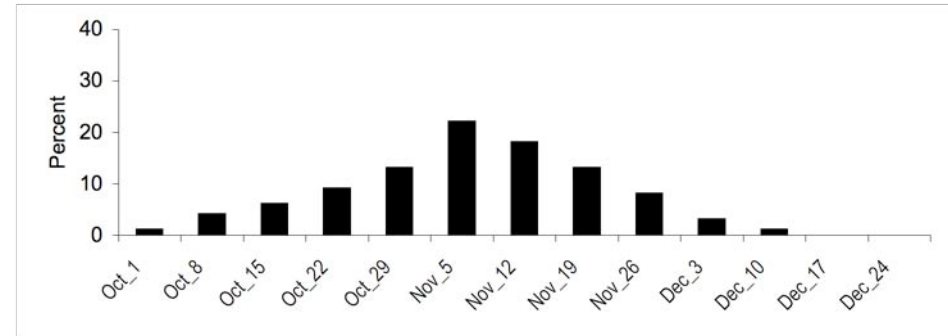
MARK TWAIN: Attitudes about the week most preferred to hunt are more varied among respondents from Mark Twain Region compared to most areas in the North Zone. Fewer than 15% of respondents during 2000-2004 selected the same week as their preference. In previous years, they more clearly favored the second and third week of November. Mark Twain hunters were generally satisfied with season dates and, to a lesser extent, zone boundaries.



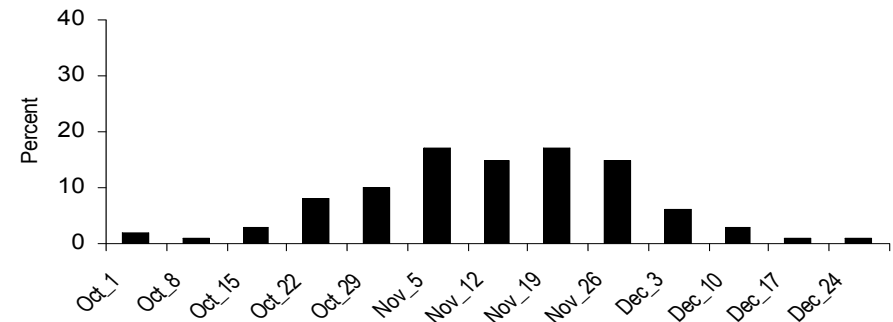
Preferred day for 60-day season to open for those who primarily hunted the Upper Mississippi Region (n=217).



Preferred day for 45-day season to open for those who primarily hunted the Upper Mississippi Region (n=208).



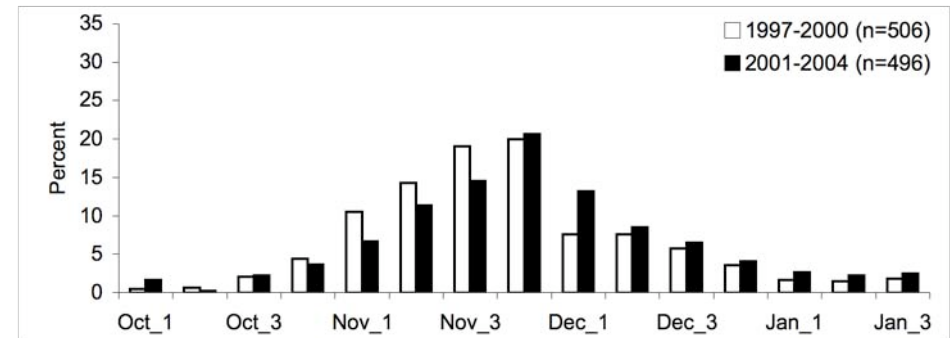
Preferred day for 30-day season to open for those who primarily hunted the Upper Mississippi Region (n=204).



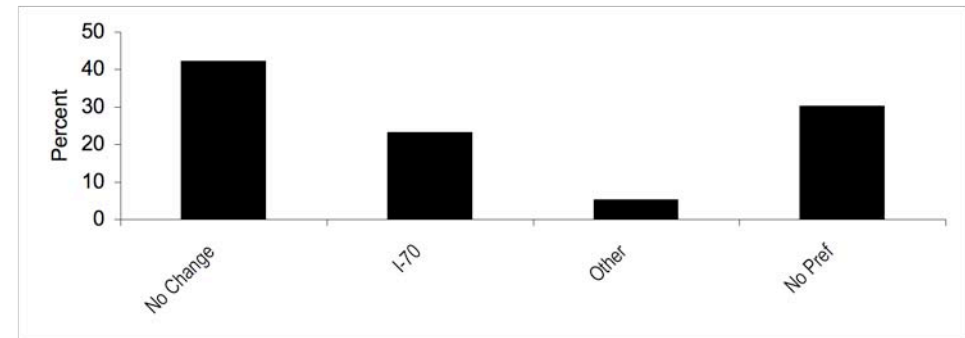
UPPER MISSISSIPPI: The “Upper Miss” is one of the most traditional migration corridors and hunting locations in Missouri and the Midwest. Habitats range from open river to backwater sloughs to managed shallow wetlands. The present opening date is the most desired, with 26% preferring the season to open on 29 October. Another 23% would like to see the season open a week later. November 5 was the favored opening date for a 45-day season. Hunters were not in agreement about when a 30-day season should open.



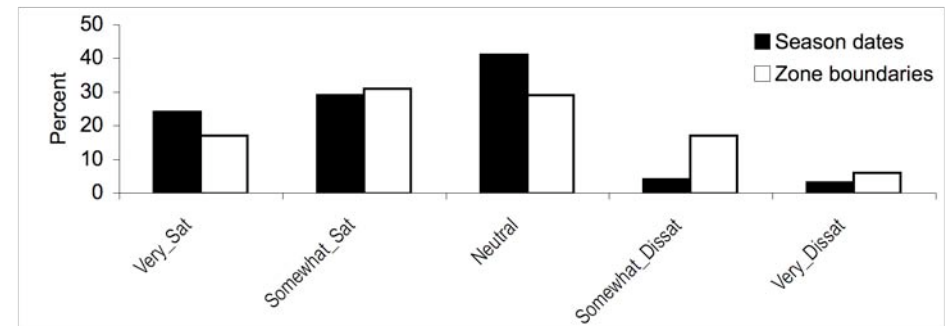
Week most preferred to hunt ducks for hunters who primarily hunted the Upper Mississippi Region: 1997-2000 and 2001-2004.



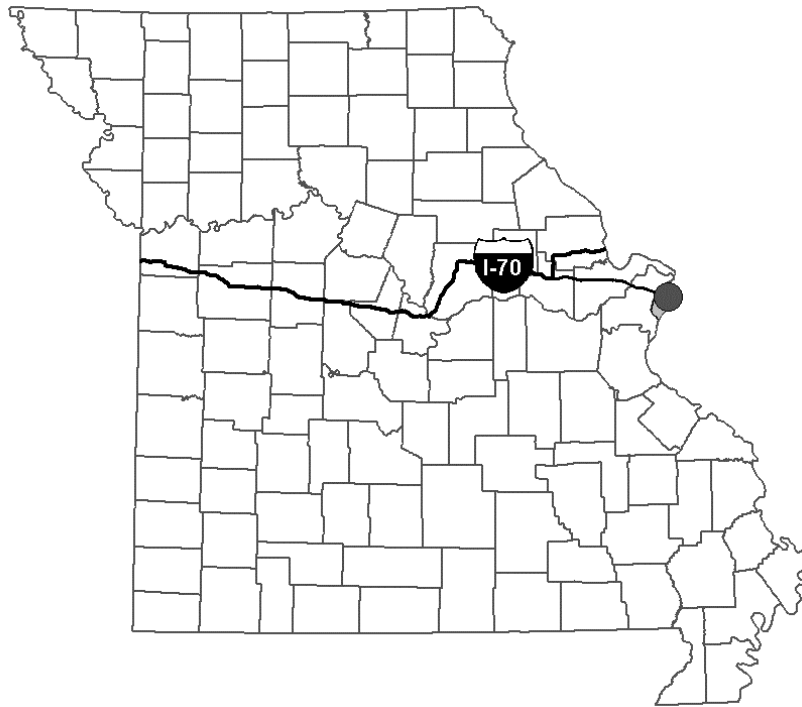
North Zone boundary preferences for eastern Missouri among those who primarily hunted the Upper Mississippi Region (n=246).



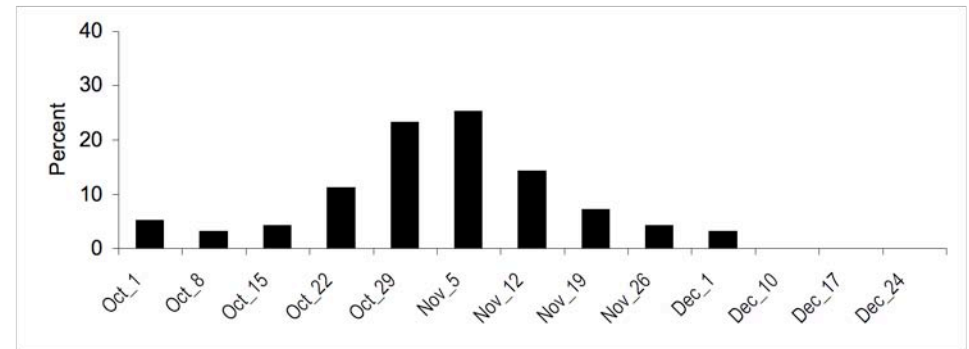
Hunter satisfaction with season dates and zone boundaries by those who primarily hunted the Upper Mississippi Region (n=232).



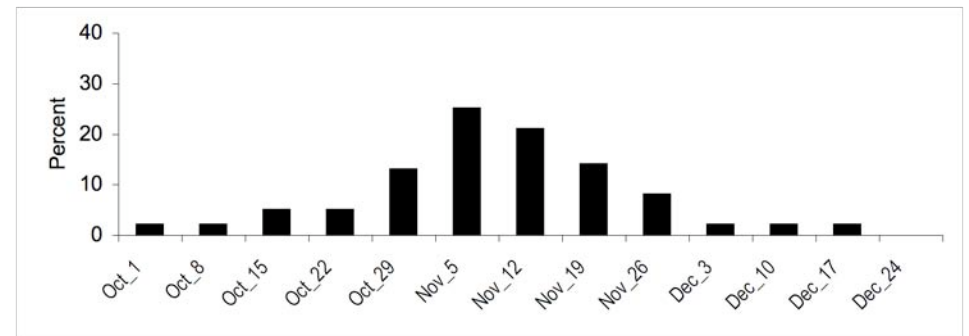
UPPER MISSISSIPPI: The fourth week of November was the most preferred week to hunt by Upper Mississippi hunters. Forty percent of 2001-2004 respondents preferred a week before the end of November and 39% favored a week after this time. Of those who had a zone boundary preference, 60% preferred the current North Zone boundary in eastern Missouri and 33% felt it should be moved to I-70. Just over 50% of Upper Mississippi hunters were satisfied with season dates and fewer than 50% were satisfied with zone boundaries.



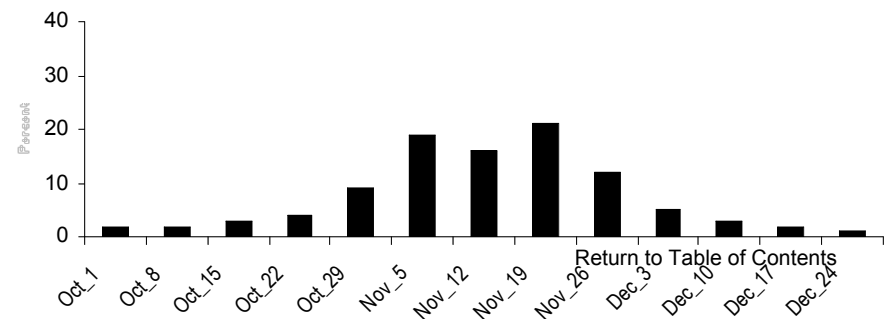
Preferred day for 60-day season to open for those who primarily hunted in St. Charles County (n=259).



Preferred day for 45-day season to open for those who primarily hunted in St. Charles County (n=248).



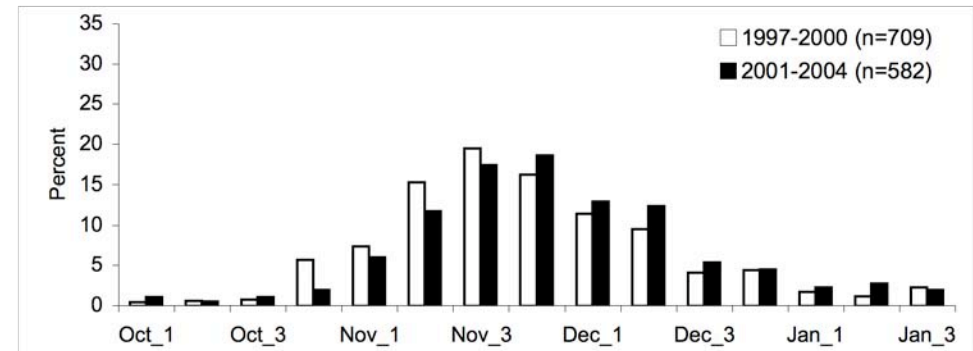
Preferred day for 30-day season to open for those who primarily hunted in St. Charles County (n=243).



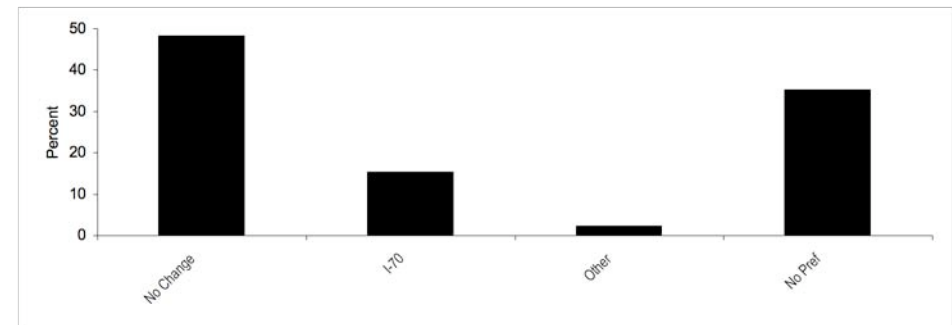
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ST. CHARLES COUNTY: At the confluence of the Missouri and Mississippi rivers, St. Charles County is perhaps the most storied of all duck hunting locations in Missouri. Hunters are almost equally divided about when a 60-day season should begin with 23% preferring a 29 October opener and 25% a November 5 opener. Of the remainder, 23% would like an earlier start to the season and 25% would like an even later start. In the event of a 45-day season, November 5 was still the most preferred (21%) followed by November 12 (21%).

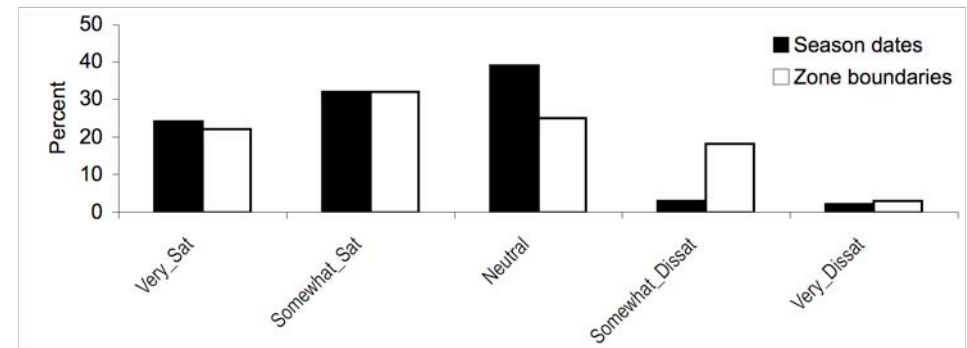
Week most preferred to hunt ducks for hunters who primarily hunted in St. Charles County: 1997-2000 and 2001-2004.



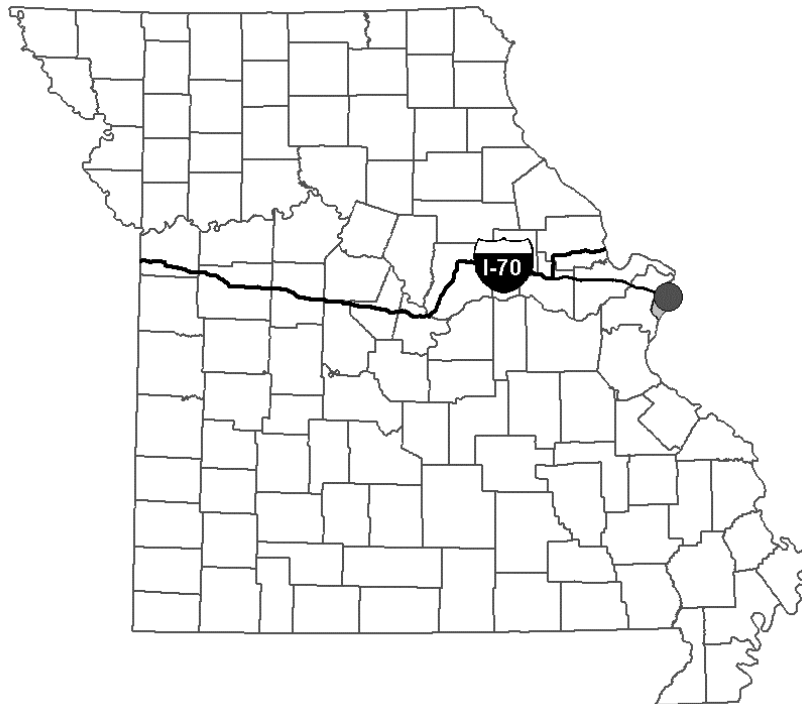
North Zone boundary preferences for eastern Missouri among those who primarily hunted in St. Charles County (n=293).



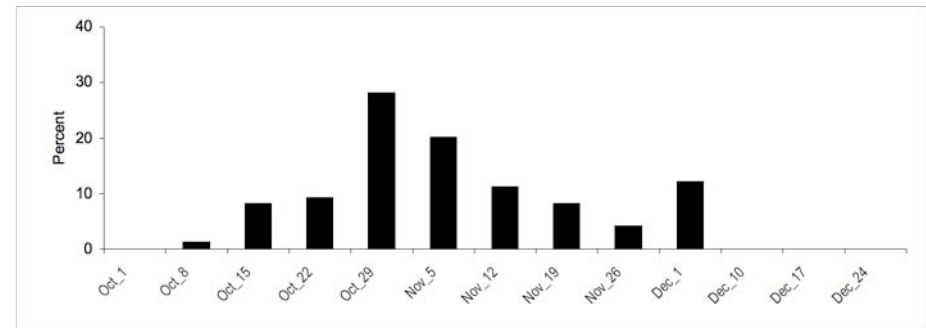
Hunter satisfaction with season dates and zone boundaries by those who primarily hunted in St. Charles County (n=269).



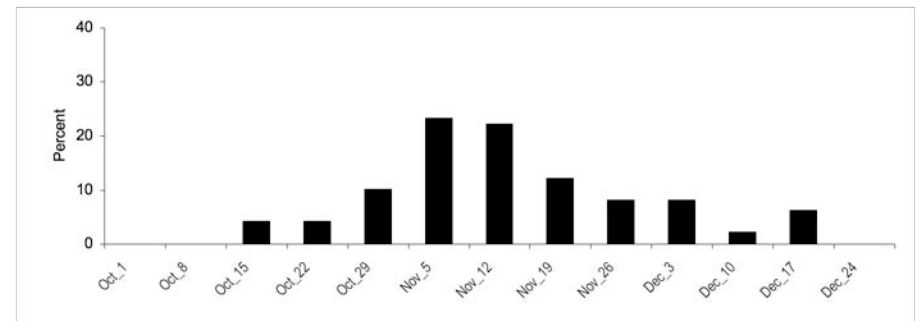
ST. CHARLES COUNTY: Based on hunter preference information and the results of the 2001 zoning workshop in St. Charles County, the North/Middle Zone boundary was moved north to accommodate hunters' desire for more late season hunting opportunity. The current season structure accommodates nearly 90% of hunters' most preferred week to hunt. Undoubtedly, those with shallow water hunting preferences differ from those hunting the Mississippi River. After the 2004 season, 5% of respondents indicated they were dissatisfied with season dates, and slightly more (21%) with zone boundaries. Most hunters (48%) favored maintaining the current zone boundary, but 17% indicated they would prefer I-70 as the Zone boundary.



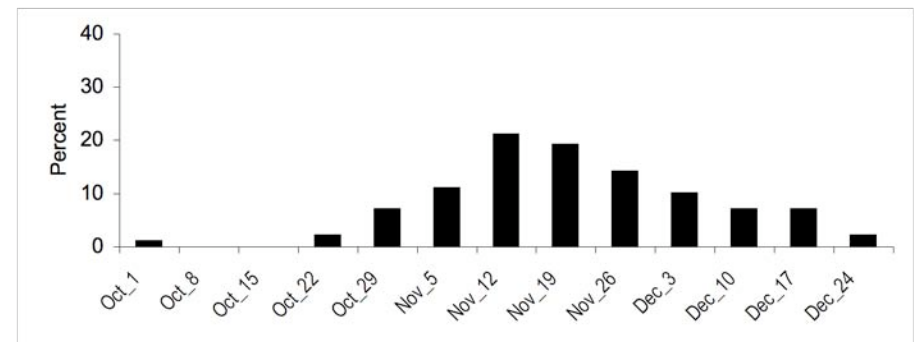
Preferred day for 60-day season to open for those who primarily hunted the Missouri River South Region (n=112).



Preferred day for 45-day season to open for those who primarily hunted the Missouri River South Region (n=107).



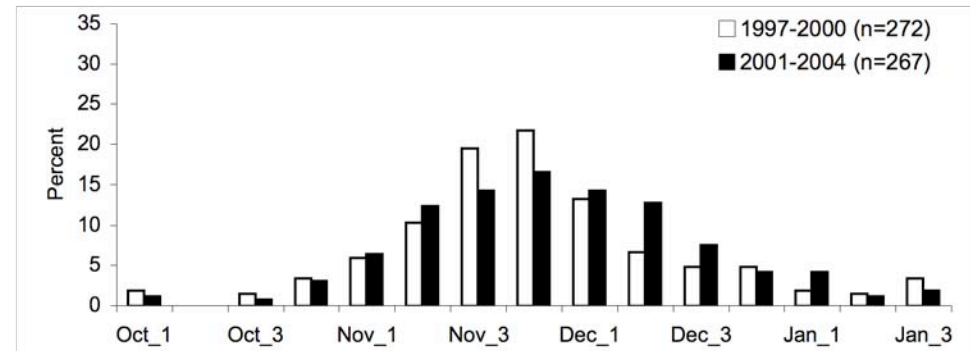
Preferred day for 30-day season to open for those who primarily hunted the Missouri River South Region (n=106).



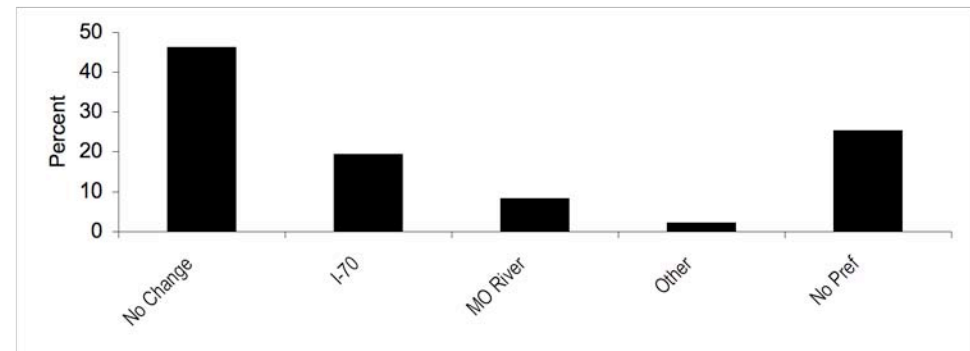
MISSOURI RIVER SOUTH: This Region includes the shallow water habitat such as Grand Pass CA and the Missouri River. Hunters prefer later season hunting opportunity as indicated by over 55% suggesting that the season should open on November 5 or later in a 60-day season. The most frequently cited date preferences for 45-day and 30-day seasons were November 5 – December 19 and November 12 – December 11, respectively.



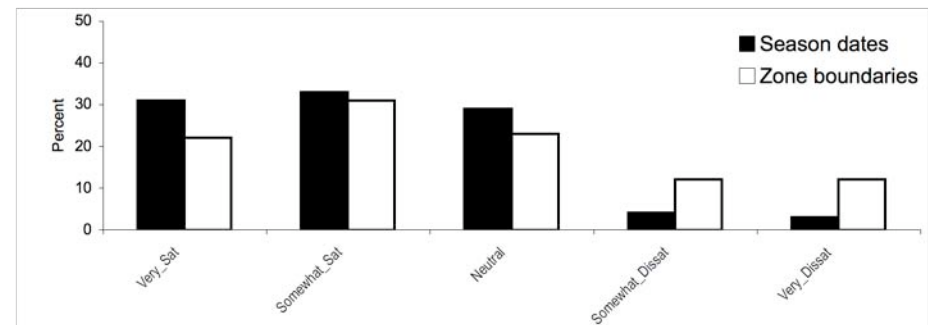
Week most preferred to hunt ducks for hunters who primarily hunted the Missouri River South Region: 1997-2000 and 2001-2004.



North Zone boundary preferences for western Missouri among those who primarily hunted the Missouri River South Region (n=127).



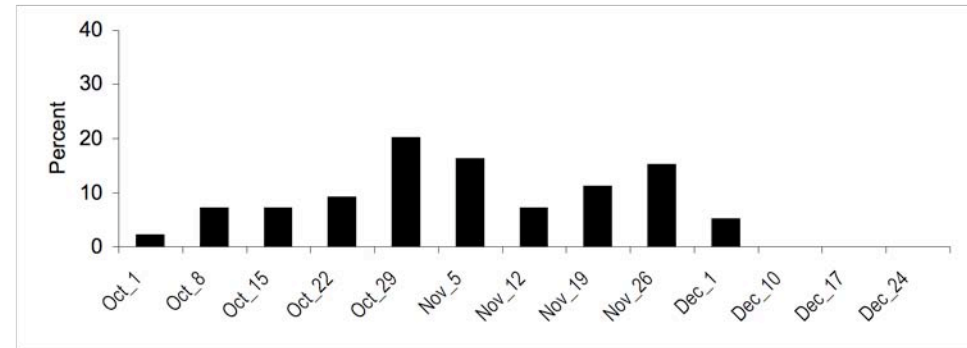
Hunter satisfaction with season dates and zone boundaries by those who primarily hunted the Missouri River South Region (n=113).



MISSOURI RIVER SOUTH: Hunter opinions about season dates match their preferences about the week they most prefer to hunt. Even in a 30-day season, over 70% of hunters' preferred week to hunt would be accommodated. Nearly 50% indicated they would like the current zones to remain in place. Hunters were generally satisfied with season dates (64%) and zone boundaries (53%).

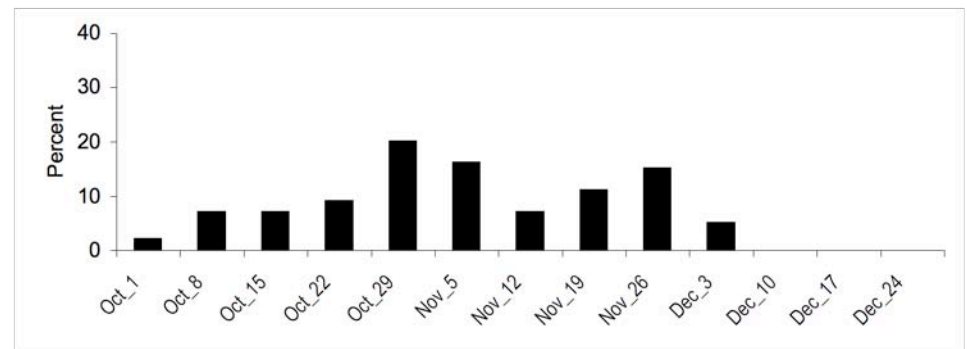


Preferred day for 60-day season to open for those who primarily hunted the Lower Missouri River (n=55).

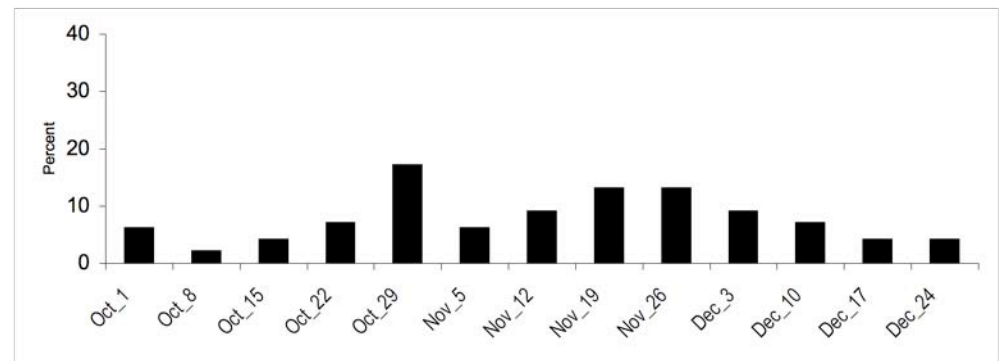


Pre

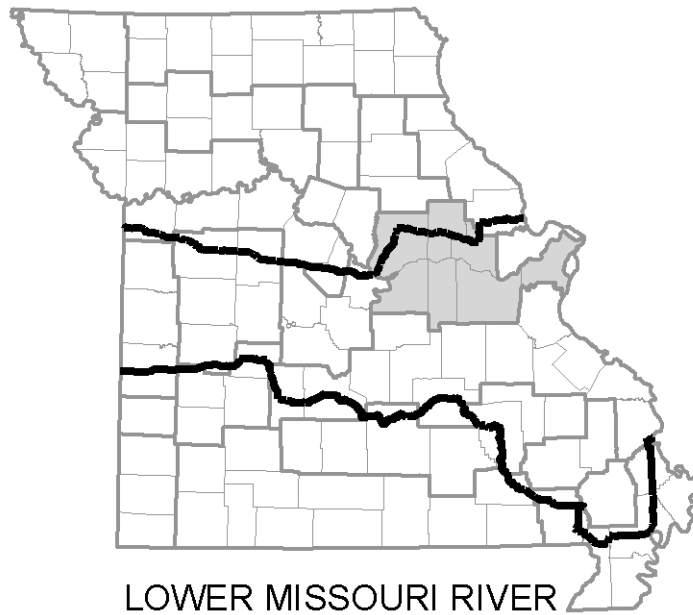
ferred day for 45-day season to open for those who primarily hunted the Lower Missouri River (n=55).



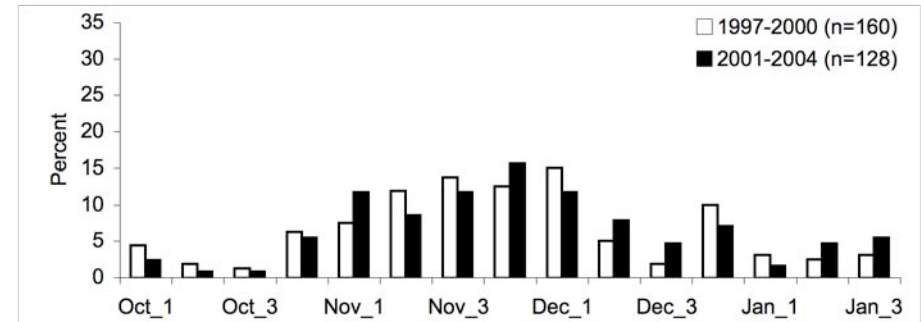
Preferred day for 30-day season to open for those who primarily hunted the Lower Missouri River (n=54).



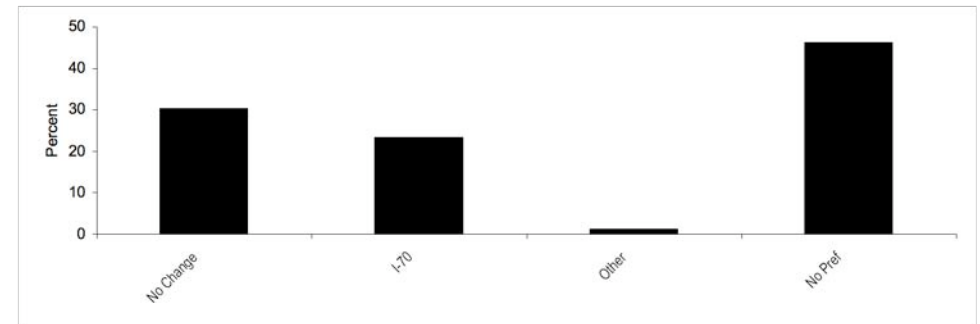
LOWER MISSOURI RIVER: A narrow and altered (levees, wing dams, etc.) Missouri River and floodplain, plus the Osage, Gasconade, and smaller rivers provide only limited wetlands for duck hunting. The region was included in the North Zone until zones were reconfigured in 1991, after which the Lower Missouri River Region was incorporated into the Middle Zone. Season date preferences are extremely varied and likely depend on whether hunters prefer early season wood duck opportunity on streams, late October diving duck migrations, early November mallard arrival, or hunting around freeze-up.



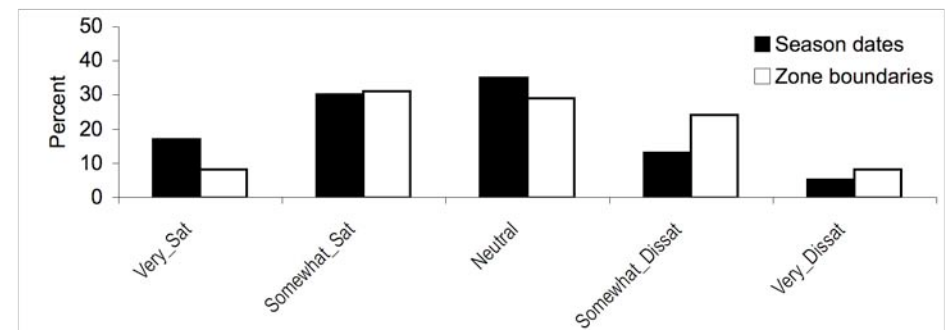
Week most preferred to hunt ducks for hunters who primarily hunted the Lower Missouri River Region: 1997-2000 and 2001-2004.



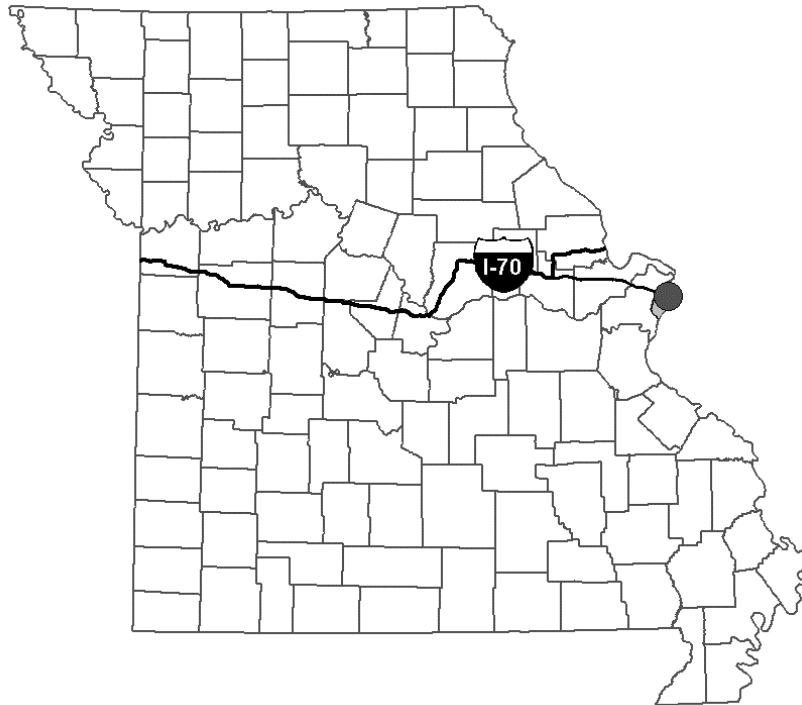
North Zone boundary preferences for eastern Missouri among those who primarily hunted the Lower Missouri River Region (n=71).



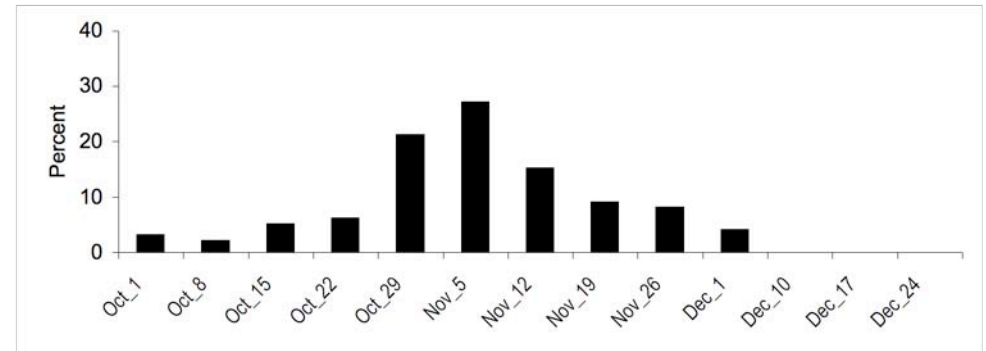
Hunter satisfaction with season dates and zone boundaries by those who primarily hunt the Lower Missouri Region (n=59).



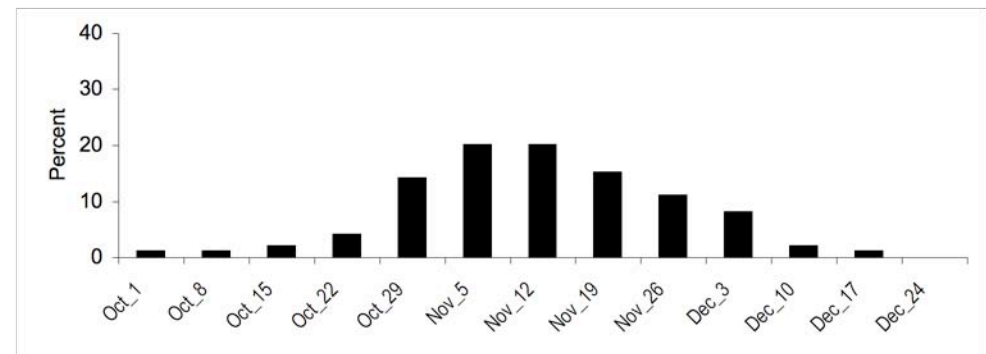
LOWER MISSOURI RIVER: Hunters were nearly equally divided in their preferred week to hunt among the weeks in November and the first week of December. Nearly 50% of hunters did not have a preference about zone boundaries, but those who did slightly favored no change in eastern Missouri. Neither of these options would have direct impact on the Lower Missouri River Region.



Preferred day for 60-day season to open for those who primarily hunted the Schell-Osage Region (n=182).



Preferred day for 45-day season to open for those who primarily hunted the Schell-Osage Region (n=171).



Preferred day for 30-day season to open for those who primarily hunted the Schell-Osage Region (n=172).

